



Ready to Protect, Proud to Serve

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Media Release



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Chief of Police

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CANCELLATION OF THE AUTOMATED EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM (AENS)

The Automated Emergency Notification System (AENS) used by the Tucson Police Department and other agencies within Pima County has been deactivated. The AENS was the system used by the Department to provide a variety of alerts to the public. The AENS was capable of sending text/SMS messages, faxes, e-mails, or placing prerecorded voice calls to citizens who registered with the system to receive alerts, or who's location was within an alert area. Citizens could also input information indicating that they would require assistance in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Some of the notification types included:

Child Abduction Emergency/Amber Alert

911 Telephone Outage Emergency

Hazardous Materials Warning

Shelter In Place Warning

Nuclear/Radiological Emergency

Evacuate Immediately Warning

Law Enforcement Warning

Severe Weather Related Alert

Recent uses of the AENS in Tucson included public safety information related to last winter's hard freeze and associated widespread utilities outages, severe flooding in the Tanque Verde Wash area, and a missing endangered person during severe cold weather conditions.

The AENS system was grant funded through the Tucson Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Grant funding by the DHS to the Tucson UASI has been severely cut, and the budgetary capacity to continue to fund some of the UASI programs no longer exists.

In our effort to replace some of the lost notification functionality, **the Tucson Police Department will be providing community and media notification through our Facebook page and Twitter feed.** In order to continue to provide notification to as many citizens as possible, the Tucson Police Department urges members of the community to follow us on Twitter and "Like" us on Facebook.

Facebook and Twitter accounts are free. Our internet page at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police> provides direct links to our official Facebook and Twitter pages. By clicking the "like" or

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.

Twitter icons, you will be taken to their respective sign-up page (if you don't already have an account), or if you do have an account, will be given the option to add the Tucson Police Department to your list.



The official Tucson Police Department Facebook page is:

<http://www.facebook.com/TucsonPoliceDepartment>

The official Tucson Police Department Twitter page is:

http://twitter.com/Tucson_Police

If you are new to social media and need help or tutorials for signing up or following/“liking” the Tucson Police Department, the following page contains some helpful links to make the process easier.

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How to create a Facebook account:

<http://www.facebook.com/help/?topic=signup>

How to create a Twitter account:

<http://support.twitter.com/groups/31-twitter-basics/topics/104-welcome-to-twitter-support/articles/100990-how-to-sign-up-on-twitter>

How to follow the Tucson Police Department on Twitter:

<http://support.twitter.com/groups/31-twitter-basics/topics/108-finding-following-people/articles/162981-how-to-follow-others>

The Tucson Police Department is committed to keeping the community informed through our various outreach efforts. Social media is one of the most effective ways in which we can get timely messages disseminated to the widest possible audience. We will continue to develop our use of social media platforms in order to enhance the service that we provide to the community.

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